

# Fulbright Asks Text on Nixon's Russian Talks

STATINTL

Chairman Fulbright of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee today asked the State Department to release the full text of Moscow talks last year between Vice President Nixon and Soviet Premier Khrushchev.

He declared he has reason to believe that a series of newspaper articles by Earl Maso, a member of the Washington bureau of the New York Herald Tribune, who wrote a biography of Mr. Nixon last year, tend to put the Vice President in too favorable a light in his verbal exchanges with Mr. Khrushchev.

Senator Fulbright wrote to Secretary of State Herter to protest that the articles apparently were based in part on official State Department transcripts which the department has withheld not only from the general public but from the Senate committee itself.

## Different Impressions?

"According to information from sources privileged to see the transcripts," Senator Fulbright wrote, "I understand the full flavor is somewhat different from the impression conveyed in the articles—specifically, that the complete text leaves small doubt that the Soviet Premier maintained the control of the course of the interchange, with the Vice President in the position of giving debater's answers. I do not know what interpretation is correct."

The Arkansas Democrat wrote Mr. Herter that the question of interpretation could be readily cleared up if the full transcripts were released. He said this was particularly desirable because at least some of the transcripts apparently were shown to Mr. Maso without making them available to the press generally.

"You must appreciate as I do," Senator Fulbright added, "the question of propriety involved in permitting ex parte use of documents of a governmental character not in the public domain."

## Letter to Tribune

Senator Fulbright also re-  
lated a letter he sent today to Robert M. White, Jr., editor and president of the New York Herald Tribune. In it he declared that the failure of the State Department to make the transcripts available for the public and the Senate committee gives "no basis to form an opinion of Mr. Nixon's competence except through the mind of one man, Mr. Maso, the biographer."

"I do not think this is fair to your readers and to the American public generally," Senator Fulbright wrote. "For that reason, I hope very much that the Herald Tribune will agree with the position I have taken in the enclosed copy of a letter to Secretary Herter and urge that the Department of State release the full account of the Nixon-Khrushchev conversations. I hope also that if these conversations are made public, the Herald Tribune will publish them in full, thus enabling the people to judge for themselves Mr. Nixon's ability in dealing with Mr. Khrushchev."